

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the careful consideration given the present patent application. In this amendment, claim 5 has been canceled. Claims 1 to 3 are allowed, and the only question is whether claim 4 should also be allowed.

Applicants respectfully traverse the objection to claim 4. Claim 4 does indeed limit claim 1. Claim 1 specifies adding to a maltose-containing product an amount of dextrin, the dextrin having been prepared by certain specified steps including treating a starch with a beta-amylase enzyme. Claim 1 does not affirmatively specify treating the starch with an enzyme. On the other hand, claim 4, which depends from claim 1 and which is further limiting, affirmatively does require a step of treating the starch with the enzyme. The Examiner is referred to U.S. Patent 6,946,148 for a similarly worded claim.

For these reasons, the application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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